

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for coating a workpiece with a coating solution, the apparatus comprising:

5 a coating chamber in which the workpiece is coated;
a deformable coating solution supply container for supplying the coating solution to the coating chamber; and
a fluid connection fluidly connecting the coating chamber and the deformable coating solution supply container such that the coating solution is flowable between the
10 coating chamber and the deformable coating solution supply container.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the deformable coating solution supply container is constructed for deformation by manual manipulation.

15 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the deformable container is positionable to a first elevation in relation to the coating chamber that results in the coating solution flowing into the coating chamber.

20 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the deformable coating solution supply container is positionable to a second elevation that results in the coating solution flowing from the coating chamber to the deformable coating solution supply container.

25 5. The apparatus of claim 1 and further including a mechanism that deforms the coating solution supply container to provide motive force to move the coating solution to the coating chamber and which permits the coating solution to flow back to the deformable coating supply container.

30 6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the mechanism includes a holding chamber for holding the deformable coating supply container and into which fluid pressure is supplied and applied to the deformable coating supply container to force the coating solution to flow from the container to the coating chamber, and wherein the coating solution is permitted to

flow from the coating chamber to the deformable coating supply container by a decrease of fluid pressure.

7. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the mechanism includes a plate for applying a force to an exterior surface of the deformable container to force the coating solution from the container to the coating chamber, the plate being retractable such that the coating solution flows back to the container from the coating chamber.

8. The apparatus of claim 1 and further including a valving mechanism that cooperates with the fluid connection to regulate flow from the coating chamber to the coating supply container.

9. An apparatus for coating a workpiece with a coating solution, the apparatus comprising:

15 a coating chamber in which the workpiece is coated;
a supply container for supplying the coating solution to the coating chamber and being reducible in volume; and
a fluid connection fluidly connecting the coating chamber and the supply container such that the coating solution is flowable between the coating chamber and the 20 coating supply solution container.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the supply container is constructed for reduction in volume by manual manipulation.

25 11. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the supply container is positionable to a first elevation in relation to the coating chamber that results in the coating solution flowing to the coating chamber.

30 12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the supply container is positionable to a second elevation that results in the coating solution flowing from the coating chamber to the coating solution supply container.

13. The apparatus of claim 11 and further including a mechanism that reduces in volume the supply container to provide motive force to move the coating solution to the coating chamber and which permits the coating solution to flow back to the coating solution supply container.

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14. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the mechanism includes a chamber for holding the supply container into which fluid pressure is supplied and applied to the coating solution supply container to force the coating solution to flow from the bag to the coating chamber, and wherein the coating solution is permitted to flow from the coating chamber to the supply container by a decrease of fluid pressure.

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15. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the mechanism includes a plate for applying a force to the exterior of the supply container to force the coating solution from the supply container, the plate being retractable such that the coating solution flows back to the supply container from the coating chamber.

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16. The apparatus of claim 9 and further including a valving mechanism that cooperates with the fluid connection to regulate flow from the coating chamber to the coating supply container.

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17. An apparatus for coating a workpiece with a coating solution, the apparatus comprising:

a coating chamber in which the workpiece is coated;
a collapsible coating solution supply container for supplying the coating solution to the coating chamber; and
a fluid connection fluidly connecting the coating chamber and the collapsible coating solution supply bag such that the coating solution is flowable between the coating chamber and the collapsible coating solution supply bag.

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30 18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the collapsible coating solution supply bag is constructed for deformation by manual manipulation.

19. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the collapsible coating solution supply container is positionable to a first elevation in relation to the coating chamber that results in the coating solution flowing to the coating chamber.

5 20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the collapsible coating solution supply container is positionable to a second elevation that results in the coating solution flowing from the coating chamber to the collapsible coating solution supply container.

10 21. The apparatus of claim 17 and further including a mechanism that collapses the collapsible coating supply container to provide motive force to move the coating solution to the coating chamber and which permits the coating solution to flow back to the collapsible coating solution supply container.

15 22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the mechanism includes a chamber for holding the collapsible coating solution supply container into which fluid pressure is supplied and applied to the collapsible coating supply container to force coating solution to flow from the bag to the coating chamber, and wherein the coating solution is permitted to flow from the coating chamber to the collapsible coating solution supply container by a decrease of pressure.

20 23. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the mechanism includes a plate for applying a force to an exterior surface of the collapsible container to force coating solution from the container to the coating chamber, the plate being retractable such that the coating solution flows back to the container from the coating chamber.

25 24. The apparatus of claim 17 and further including a valving mechanism that cooperates with the fluid connection to regulate flow from the coating chamber to the collapsible supply container.

30 25. An apparatus for coating a workpiece with a coating solution, the apparatus comprising:
a coating chamber in which the workpiece is placed for coating;

a hermetically sealed deformable supply container for supplying the coating solution to the coating chamber; and

a fluid connection fluidly connecting the coating chamber and the hermetically sealed supply container such that the coating solution flows between the coating chamber and the hermetically sealed supply container.

5 26. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the hermetically sealed coating supply container is constructed for deformable by manual manipulation.

10 27. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the hermetically sealed supply container is positionable to a first elevation in relation to the coating chamber that results in the coating solution flowing to the coating chamber.

15 28. The apparatus of claim 27 wherein the hermetically sealed supply container is positionable to a second elevation that results in the coating solution flowing from the coating chamber to the hermetically sealed coating solution supply bag.

20 29. The apparatus of claim 25 and further including a mechanism that provides motive force to move the coating solution to the coating chamber and which permits the coating solution to flow back to the hermetically sealed supply container.

30. The apparatus of claim 25 and further including a valving mechanism that cooperates with the fluid connection to regulate flow from the coating chamber to the hermetically sealed supply container.

25 31. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the mechanism further includes a chamber for holding the hermetically sealed coating supply solution container into which fluid pressure is supplied and applied to the hermetically sealed supply container to force the coating solution to flow from the container to the coating chamber, and wherein the coating solution is permitted to flow from the coating chamber to the hermetically sealed coating solution supply container by decrease of fluid pressure.

32. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the mechanism includes a plate for applying a force to the exterior of the hermetically sealed supply container to force the coating solution from the container, the plate being retractable such that the coating solution flows back to the container from the coating chamber.

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33. A kit for providing a coating to a workpiece, the kit comprising:
a hermetically sealed coating solution container;
a coating solution;
a coating chamber in which the workpiece is coated; and
10 a fluid connection fluidly connecting the coating chamber with the hermetically sealed coating solution container.

34. The kit of claim 33 wherein the coating solution is disposed within the hermetically sealed coating solution container.

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35. The kit of claim 33 wherein the hermetically sealed coating solution container is a deformable container.

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36. The kit of claim 33 wherein the hermetically sealed coating solution container is collapsible.

37. The kit of claim 33 wherein the hermetically sealed coating solution container is reducible in volume.

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38. The kit of claim 33 and further including a valving mechanism that cooperates with the fluid connection.